U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/830,514

AMENDMENT B

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

ATTY DOCKET: 3968.057

Claims 1-16 (canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A Transformed transformed and/or mutagenized unicellular or multicellular organism comprising wherein the enzymes in said organism for of eugenol and/or ferulic acid catabolism which are inactivated by inserting Ω elements, or introducing deletions, into corresponding genes, such that the intermediates coniferyl alcohol, coniferyl aldehyde, ferulic acid, vanillin and/or vanillic acid accumulate, and wherein eugenol and/or ferulic acid catabolism is altered by inserting Ω elements, or introducing deletions, into corresponding genes.

18. (canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The Organism organism according to Claim 17, wherein the inactivated enzymes are one or more genes encoding the enzymes coniferyl alcohol dehydrogenases, coniferyl aldehyde dehydrogenases, feruloyl-CoA synthetases, enoyl-CoA hydratase-aldolases, beta-ketothiolases, vanillin dehydrogenases or vanillic acid demethylases is/are altered and/or inactivated.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/830,514

AMENDMENT B

20. (Currently amended) An <u>The</u> organism according to Claim 17, wherein said organism is unicellular.

ATTY DOCKET: 3968.057

- 21. (Currently amended) An The organism according to Claim
- 20, wherein said organism is selected from a group consisting of a microorganism, a plant cell or animal cell.
- 22. (Currently amended) An The organism according to Claim 17, wherein said organism is a bacterium.
- 23. (Currently amended) An The organism according to Claim 22, wherein said organism is of the *Pseudomonas* species.
- (Withdrawn) Gene structures comprising nucleotide coniferyl sequences which encode the enzymes alcohol dehydrogenases, coniferyl aldehyde dehydrogenases, feruloylsynthetases, enoyl-CoA hydratase-aldolases, vanillin-dehydrogenases orvanillic demethylases, or two or more of these enzymes, and are altered and/or inactivated.
- 25. (Withdrawn) Gene structures having the sequences corresponding to SEQ ID NO:1 to SEQ ID NO:18.
- 26. (Withdrawn) Vectors comprising at least one gene structure having the sequences corresponding to SEQ ID NO:1 to SEQ ID NO: 18.
- 27. (Withdrawn) A transformed organism according to Claim 17, wherein said organism comprises at least one vector comprising

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/830,514

AMENDMENT B

ATTY DOCKET: 3968.057

at least one gene structure having the sequences corresponding to SEQ ID NO:1 to SEQ ID NO:18.

- 28. (Withdrawn) Organism according to Claim 17, wherein said organism comprises at least one gene structure having the sequences corresponding to SEQ ID NO:1 to SEQ ID NO:18 which is integrated into the genome instead of the respective intact gene.
- 29. (Currently amended) <u>A</u> <u>Process</u> <u>process</u> for the biotechnological preparation of alcohols, aldehydes and organic acids, comprising the step of adding an organism emprising wherein the enzymes in said organism for of eugenol and/or ferulic acid catabolism which are inactivated <u>by inserting of Ω elements</u>, or introducing deletions, into corresponding genes, such that the intermediates coniferyl alcohol, coniferyl aldehyde, ferulic acid, vanillin and/or vanillic acid accumulate.
- 30. (Currently amended) A Process process for preparing an the organism according to Claim 17, wherein the alteration in eugenol and/or ferulic acid catabolism is achieved by microbiological culturing methods, wherein said methods are used to further culture said organism.
- 31. (Currently amended) A Process process for preparing an the organism according to Claim 29 17, wherein the alteration in eugenol and/or ferulic acid catabolism, and/or the

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: 09/830,514 AMENDMENT B

inactivation of the corresponding genes, is achieved by means of recombinant DNA methods.

ATTY DOCKET: 3968.057

- 8 -